



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Rep. Kind Says Goodbye to Sen. Gaylord Nelson

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) released the following statement regarding the death Sen. Gaylord Nelson.

“As Senator, Governor, father of Earth Day, and friend, Gaylord Nelson was a leader of the highest caliber and a great source of inspiration to many. He worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of Wisconsin, this country, and the environment, embodying the best of our great state and its proud progressive tradition.

“A leader in the environmental movement, he was one of the first to recognize that economic development and the protection of our natural resources are not mutually exclusive. He was also keenly aware that public opinion was far ahead of public policy in this area, and policymakers needed to catch up to where the American people were.

“Moreover, he recognized the value in doing a better job of protecting the land, the water, the air we breathe, and the environment in which we raise our children. Senator Nelson rightly believed that we have an obligation to work together, all of us as citizens of this planet, to better preserve and protect our natural resources so we leave the world for our children better off than we found it.

“It was his vision that gave way to Earth Day and a new compact between government and citizens to enhance the protection and quality of our precious natural resources. Thirty-five years later, we've taken great strides to improve environmental stewardship across the globe; Earth Day is celebrated annually by hundreds of millions of people in more than 180 countries.

“Senator Nelson also recognized that even with all the progress we have made, our work is far from finished. He remained active in the environmental field after he left elected office and provided guidance to others, including myself, on some of the unfinished business he left when he retired from the U.S. Senate.

“There is no other individual that has had a greater impact on shaping the worldwide respect we have for our environment today. His contributions are invaluable, and to him we owe a debt of gratitude that we can only repay by continuing his work.”